



# The Engineering Institute of Canada

## Fellow Citation - 2003

***Dr. George Akhras – A Member of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering***

*Dr. Akhras graduated from Aleppo University in Syria, and completed a Masters and PhD at Laval University. He is currently a Professor of Civil Engineering at the Royal Military College of Canada.*

*Dr. Akhras spent the first decade of his career with Rousseau, Sauvé Warren, the James Bay Corporation, and the Ministry of Transport of Quebec, primarily involved with computer application and numerical analyses for structures related to the design of hydroelectric power plants, highways and transportation structures. He then joined RMC to concentrate on research and teaching. With his combined background Dr. Akhras took interest in Smart Materials and Structures. The study of SMART materials is a multidisciplinary field covering disciplines such as civil, mechanical, aerospace, marine engineering, or experimental sciences such as chemistry and physics. Each deal with one aspect of a subject embraced by the overall application of materials and structures under one composite SMART picture. A few people, including Dr. Akhras have concentrated on this shortfall and a new group, perhaps a new science, has been developed. It is called the Canadian Smart Materials and Structures Group - - the acronym is CANSMART. Dr. Akhras was elected its first President in a meeting of the general assembly at the Canadian Space Agency. Since its inception in 1987 the objective of Cansmart has been to promote the emerging technologies of SMART materials and structures in Canada and the U.S. International meetings are now planned and can be researched on their website. [www.cansmart.com](http://www.cansmart.com). Dr. Akhras' colleagues and students must certainly benefit from a teacher with an ability to integrate the properties and beneficial characteristics of various sciences into the performance and behaviour of materials - - value engineering of the highest order.*

*Le professeur Akhras a également été très actif pour le compte de la SCGC, particulièrement à Québec, où il fut président du groupe de la ville de Québec et vice-président pour la région du Québec, avant de déménager en Ontario. Pendant cette période, les activités de la SCGC, notamment au niveau étudiant, ont connu une augmentation importante.*

*Pour souligner les multiples intérêts de cet ingénieur particulièrement doué, de ce professeur et chercheur, et pour souligner sa capacité à intégrer au génie, au Canada, les éléments des autres disciplines scientifiques, l'ICI lui confère ce soir le titre de "fellow".*

***Mr. President – Dr. George Akhras***